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REMARKS

Claims 1-29 were pending in the application at the time of examination. Claims 1-18 and 23-30 have been cancelled. Claims 21 and 22 have been amended. Claims 31-48 have been added; no new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated July 26, 2006 in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended during the telephonic interviews with Applicants' representative on September 26 and September 28 of 2006. During these interviews, the 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 rejections were discussed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 19-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,275,531 issued to Li (hereinafter "Li"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 19 recites a combination of limitations not taught or suggested by Li.

The Office Action states on pages 2-3 that, in Fig. 1 of Li, element 40 receives first compressed video data at a low resolution from element 30 and outputs tiled first compressed video data in the form of Enhancement bitstreams 1-N. Additionally, the Office Action states that Mux 50 of Fig. 1 receives the tiled first compressed video data from element 40 and second compressed video data at the high resolution, in the form of the Base Layer Bitstream from element 30, and combines the two to provide an output bitstream including compressed video data that is displayable at the high resolution.

However, Li does not disclose resolution conversion and tiling, and particularly resolution up-conversion, anywhere in his specification. Instead, Li adjusts the quality of video bitstream transmission via the addition of enhancement layers to a base layer - so long as a transmitted bitstream fits the bandwidth of a transmission channel. The base layer bitstream and N enhancement layer bitstreams are then transmitted to a network according to the bandwidth of the transmission channel of the network (See Abstract).

Li does not teach or remotely suggest resolution conversion in general or resolution conversion and tiling as recited. Specifically, Li does not teach or suggest: “generating additional compressed video data displayable at the high resolution; tiling macroblocks from the first compressed video data and macroblocks from the additional compressed video data; and combining tiled first compressed video data and the second compressed video data into an output compressed bitstream including compressed video data that is displayable at the high resolution” as recited.

The Office Action dated July 26, 2006 acknowledges on page 4 that “Li does not disclose...tiling macroblocks from the first compressed video data and macroblocks from the additional compressed video data,” and “...further including determining the size of a low resolution border around a set of macroblocks included in a frame of the first compressed video data,” as recited in claim 19, but states that it would have been obvious to do so. However, Li does not support this obviousness assertion. Li adjusts the quality of an input bitstream so as to fill an available bandwidth. The present claims teach a fast form of resolution up-conversion based on tiling macroblocks from an input stream and additional generated compressed video data. There is no remote suggestion in Li of resolution conversion or tiling macroblocks, or motivation to do such processing to have an output bitstream better-fit available bandwidth (Li’s main goal). By contrast, the additional generated compressed video data of claim 19 would add bits to Li, which reduces Li’s ability to fit the output bitstream onto a bandwidth. Thus, Li’s available bandwidth matching would be hindered by elements of claim 19, and the independent claim is not obvious in view of Li.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Li does not teach or suggest a combination of limitations as recited in independent claim 19. New independent claims 35 and 42 recite similar limitations as those recited in claim 19, albeit as a system and software, respectively, and therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 35 and 42 are patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons stated above with respect to claim 19.

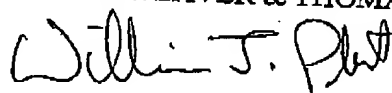
All dependent claims depend either directly or indirectly on claims 19, 35 and 42, and hence, are respectfully submitted to be patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons stated above with respect to the independent claims. Additionally, these dependent claims recite other elements or limitations that further distinguish them from the art of record.

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CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now allowable, and the Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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